

Indian Chieftain.

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ANY person who can read, as published in last week's CHIEFTAIN, some of the "hard to say what it is—poetry, it may be according to the belief of the authors, and not have a spell of colic or diarrhea, never need be afraid of snakes, mad dogs, lightning or cyclones. That epic doggerel, attached like a tail to a prose performance of no greater merit, is just enough to kill by a kick backward the donkey that fired it through the CHIEFTAIN, and him it was intended to defend.

REMEMBER that in the broad and liberal principles of the Downing party, as set forth in its platform, and as practiced since the organization of the party upon the basis of restored friendship and acknowledged common interests, citizens of any class, native and adopted, can find an earnest of what the party is willing to do, and will do, should it win a controlling power in the affairs of government. In its ranks old grievances are forgotten and none are disqualified to hold office because he was a rebel or because he is an adopted citizen, nor will be denied the rights the constitution and treaties warrant him.

FEMALE SEMINARY BURNED.

Origin, Scenes and Incidents of the Catastrophe.

Last Sunday, only a few minutes after finishing an article descriptive of the entertainment at the Female Seminary, the startling intelligence rang out that the building was in flames. In a few minutes more every vehicle that could be started was rolling at fearful speed to the relief of the students. Every door was thrown open for their reception, hotel accommodations were offered, and in tones of kindness and sympathy invitations to come were sent the sufferers. After an hour or so of absence wagons, hacks and buggies began to return to town loaded with school girls and their plunder. To the adjacent houses many were sent and gladly received. Many accepted the accommodations at the Male Seminary and at the Presbyterian girl boarding school. Nearly every family had one or more to care for. Neither sympathy nor desire, nor action that speaks louder than either were wanting. All were cared for.

HOW THE FIRE STARTED.

As stated by those who seem to know, the fire started from the ashes and burning tobacco knocked out of a pipe. A fellow by the name of McClane, crazy on the subject of religion, went to the seminary and asked for permission to preach. This was denied him. After remaining for some time, he remarked to Judge Walker that he would go out on the back porch and take a smoke, and it appears that, after having finished, he knocked the ashes out of his pipe against a post, which being very dry and decayed at the base easily took fire from the embers that were fanned into a blaze by the wind. The post being hollow the fire soon burned its way through and ascended on the inside. When discovered such was the progress it had made. Repeated efforts were made to remove the post, but before this could be done the fire had reached the roof of the portico. From thence it penetrated the main building and was beyond control.

The scene of excitement that now followed beggars description. The girls, frantic with fear, weeping and screaming, ran hither and thither without any seeming purpose. Some lost not their presence of mind, but began to save their trunks and clothing and to aid each other in doing so. Some were cool and brave, and with strength born of excitement, ran from room to room and threw their contents from the windows. Just as the excitement began to grow appalling, Mr. Howell Cobb and James Johnston drove up with three young girls in a buggy. As quick as possible they fastened their team to the fence and ran in to the burning building. Life was their first object to save. Many doors were locked, which they burst open by running against them. The wildest confusion reigned and none but cool heads and courageous hearts could do what was done. Flying from room to room and from floor to floor, Cobb, undaunted satisfied himself that all had escaped. On their return to town that evening they were hollow-eyed and worn down with their efforts to save all they could.

The building is now in ruins. Tottering walls and columns are all that is left of that which is so fondly cherished by so many mothers and daughters of our nation.

GOOD-BYE, STONE.

"National" Bids an Affectionate Adieu to the Man of Pictures.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—I desire to thank Mr. Stone for his reply to my communication. It shows the force of my criticism upon his presumptuous "address," his polished culture and refinement and his brilliant qualities as a statesman and correspondent. "The galled jade" evidently winces under the castigation he invited. But not to appear wanting in justice, I promptly acknowledge the contribution which he says he made to the funds of the nation when he paid to the clerk of the court the fee for a license to marry. Whether it was in gold, silver, greenback or national scrip, how wonderful his liberality! And, hence, he asks a voice in the affairs of the nation because a woman has adopted him and for her sake and her rights and those of her children. Ugh! Is that what comes of marrying in "good old Missouri?" Tell us, won't you? Here children are regarded as belonging equally to the father and the mother, with the burden of care and providing on the paternal, not maternal, side. Mr. Stone, did you ever know a fellow in this Indian country to whine about the rights of his wife and children who was not a measly one? I never did. But no one objects, on that account, to your enjoyment of all the rights bestowed upon you by the laws of the nation, nor to your participation in the politics of the country and the undisturbed exercise of suffrage. When, however, you presume to characterize men as old political hacks, whose lives have been spent in the service of their native land, and strive to combine adopted citizens against those whom you acknowledge to be gentlemen, upright and honest, who are candidates for office in their own country and under their own government, simply because they speak their native tongue and are not familiar with your ways, a different question is presented; you are then guilty of "offensive partisanship" and deserve rebuke? The day has not yet arrived, I would have you know, when native Indians, whether Cherokees, Creeks, Shawnees or Delawares, will submit to such ostracism; nor when honorable whites and freedmen will fail to despise your asinine bluster. I denounce your "address," not because it came from a white man, but because it was a mean appeal against every Indian-speaking candidate in the country. But write on, sir; "National" desires no greater support for his favorite candidate than such as you afford. Good-bye. NATIONAL.

THE TWO PLANKS.

Compare Them Carefully and Choose for Yourself.

TARLEQUAN, April 12th, 1887.

ED. CHIEFTAIN:—The following section of the National platform speaks for itself and is the section that "National," in his attack on B. H. Stone in your issue of March 31st, refers to:

7th. The National party pledges itself to all citizens adopted under treaty, the enjoyment of equal rights with native Cherokees, and should friendly and honest difference of opinion arise with either or any class of adopted citizens, in regard to their respective rights to the national government, the National party will, without any spirit of contention, but for fair settlement, and to effect a final settlement, submit the question in dispute to the difference of whatever judicial tribunal may be appropriate and designated to decide the points at issue.

"National" says that "the above plank in the platform of the National party, which pledges equal rights to them with a native Cherokee, is full and comprehensive and not qualified by any reservation of cautiously worded reference to the existing law which draws the line of distinction between them, as will be found on reference to plank five of the Downing party."

The following is the fifth section of the Downing platform and speaks for itself, and shows very conclusively that Mr. Stone's judgment was good, when he prefers section five of the Downing party to that of section seven of the National party:

Fifth.—One great object of the Cherokee nation must be to keep peace and friendship among her own citizens. This government and her institutions must be maintained by the united effort of our people. We therefore guarantee equal justice to all citizens and every right guaranteed to them under our laws, constitution and treaties, the different classes, viz: Cherokees by blood, Shawnees, Delawares, freedmen, Creeks and adopted whites. We recognize the fact that the destiny of our country rests in the hands of this entire people. Our great purpose will be to make every citizen feel that this is his home; that here his life, liberty and property are protected.

DENIES THE ACCUSATION.

Dr. Bland's Version of that Reception—No Money Was Asked, but None Would be Refused.

WASHINGTON, April 10, 1887.

EDITOR INDIAN CHIEFTAIN, Vinita, Indian Territory. Dear Sir:—I find in your paper for March 31st a communication signed "Waapeketewa," which is evidently inspired by a false and malicious special from Washington to the New York Tribune, on the 13th of last month, about what occurred at a reception to Indians in my parlors a short time before, and which reception was truthfully reported in the Council Fire for March, as Col. G. W. Grayson, of Etahula, Judge Stillman, of the same place, Col. G. W. Harkins, of Tishomingo, Captain J. S. Standley, of Atoka, and others present on that occasion, will testify. The statement in the Tribune's special, that President Sunderland, of the National Indian Defence Association, asked the Indians present for money, and that they pledged \$5,000, is entirely false as Dr. Sunderland was not at the reception nor was one word said by any Indian, white man or woman during the evening about money to sustain the association, or for any other purpose. I was in New York when the falsehood appeared in the Tribune and contradicted it in the issue for the next day, March 14th, which fact seems to have escaped the attention of your correspondent.

Permit me to say, that it would, in my view, be entirely proper for the civilized tribes to aid the National Indian Defence Association by personal donations or tribal appropriations in its work of defending the rights of all the Indians. And in this opinion I am sustained by the leading men of the Indian Territory. Yours for justice,

T. A. BLAND.

AFTER THE POET.

"Vinita" Goes After Washington Adair and Gets Him, too.

ED. CHIEFTAIN:—Again our irritable friend, Washington Bunch Adair, has been on the rampage, this time forcing himself upon the public in a tirade against the intelligent people in general. His childish simplicity in reasoning and his effort to make Bunch the chief, are ridiculous in the extreme. The correspondent must have been absent-minded when he wrote his article. We maintain that every means employed by the Downing party to defeat the syndicates was reasonable and honorable. If there was an effort made by the last council to annul the present lease, neither Adair nor any other National made it. If that be so, why did the leaders of the National party attempt to bribe Stephen Teehee, senator from Sequoyah district, one of the most patriotic and honorable gentlemen of the Downing party? And were it necessary, we could prove it. The next time that correspondent writes about the lease we would suggest that he confine himself to facts, and not try to place innocent citizens in a false light before the criticizing public. The learned writer spoke not a word in defense or recommendation of his candidate for chief. Judge Mayes he did not name in any manner, either for good or evil. The burden of his song was the syndicates. He rang the changes upon that subject until it provoked several sharp retorts from the Nationals. One man says, even if a boy is whistling, "I want to be an angel," it is better to keep the cookies on the top shelf and put the step-ladder in the garret. How is that for poetry?

VINITA.

ANOTHER ADOPTED VOTER.

He Examines "National" Article and Files Exceptions.

TARLEQUAN, April 9th, 1887.

ED. CHIEFTAIN:—In your issue of the 31st of March I was much amused to find an article from Mr. National in which he attacks me. B. H. Stone in an outburst of what he seems to think political sarcasm. In regard to this question of adopted citizens, he seems to express his sentiments in a manner that calls forth a few lines from another adopted citizen of the Cherokee nation, and with courtesy to the friends and advocates of all that is just and honorable; and as a defender of the government which it requires of me by taking the oath of allegiance, I deem it my duty to inform Mr. National that I, too, am a vindicator of the rights and privileges of a legalized citizen and suggest that he examine his letter once more and discover, if possible, the groundlessness of his arguments. I would ask Mr. National if he is responsible for what he writes, or is it a capricious of his to while away progressive time? Or, worse, does he hope to bulldoze the wide-awake classes of the people by ignoring the efforts of those whose ambition for advancement, education and independence stimulates them to action? "Unity is the stepping stone to success." Discord is the downfall and degen-

eration of all nations. Liberty and the free exercise of our rights is ours; we are voters. We want a safe man at the helm of a progressive government, and that man is Joel Mayes.

If Mr. National wishes to know the name of the writer it will be cheerfully given, providing he uses the same courtesy. Three cheers for Mayes. ALPHA.

OUR WESTERN LANDS.

Says the United States, Cannot be Occupied by Cherokees.

CLARKSBURG, C. N., April 10, 1887.

EDITOR INDIAN CHIEFTAIN, Sir:—For the information of the Cherokee people, I send you a letter I received from the Indian Department on the subject of our lands west of 96 degrees. I asked for this information at the request of some of our citizens who had spoken to me in regard to moving on said lands and permanently settling with their families. Please have this letter with the letter of J. D. C. Atkins' printed and oblige. Very respectfully,

J. M. BRYAN.

THE LETTER.

Washington, D. C., March 31, 1887.

J. M. BRYAN, Esq., Dear Sir:—In reply to your letter of February 9th, 1887, I have to advise you that citizens of the Cherokee nation have no right to settle on land west of 96 degrees, covered by the 18th article of the Cherokee Treaty of 1866, (14 Stat., 804).

The attorney general, in an opinion dated February 25, 1880, held that a fair interpretation of the article referred to, "Would seem to be that the lands to which it refers were absolutely reserved to the United States, upon the conditions therein named, for the settlement thereof of tribes of friendly Indians. The jurisdiction and possession of the Cherokee nation as to the lands from time to time remaining unsold and unoccupied would be no right to the nation to settle its citizens thereon, until the privileges acquired by the United States to settle tribes of friendly Indians in any part of the country west of 96 degrees should be satisfied, or in some authentic way be renounced; and this being so, no person attempting a settlement on these lands can justify under any authority given by the Cherokee nation. Very respectfully,

J. D. C. ATKINS.

COOWEESCOOWEE DISTRICT.

"Fullblood" adds his Contribution to our Correspondence.

Water somewhat scarce.

Claremore supports two dudes.

Dry as you please and a nice cool breeze.

While at Claremore last week politics seemed to be all the go, from the way they tackled me.

For cheap goods and to see a handsome clerk call in at R. P. Lindsey's store. They are there.

J. S. Bean, it appears, is no Bunch Bean. Well enough, for Rabbits will eat them. I take it that he is a genuine Maize Bean. Bully for Joe.

The solicitor, assisted by the gentlemen who lifted the Scales from the supreme court, were whooping up the defendants in the walnut log case to-day.

Rev. Morris preached an interesting sermon at the court house Sunday last. Less talking and laughing in church would be considered good behavior, especially for ladies.

FULLBLOOD.

Of Nannie M. Wife of John H. Folsom.

Deceased whose maiden name was Mayfield, was born in 1857 in Bullitt county, Kentucky; was married at the age of twenty. She died April 5th, 1887, of Bright's disease of the kidneys, near this place.

Early in life she united with the Missionary Baptist church and reposing unbounded faith in "Him who doeth all things well" her pilgrimage down through the dark valley was one of peace. In all her social relations she was beneficent to a fault, and words of comfort and of good cheer were ever upon her lips. The closing days of life's existence were hailed as the opening to a better and a brighter world, and fear nor trepidation was never manifested. She ever acknowledged God as the primary source of every enjoyment. As a Christiana matron she sought to lead her family into the golden path of wisdom and holiness and as she neared the frigid waters of the silent river, to her husband and children she said: "Weep not; my savior calls me home."

Children, your mother has been called home to glory by the voice of our sweet redeemer. Called home from this world of woe, selfishness and deceit to that celestial clime where all is peace.

J. A. L.

ITEMS FROM TULSA.

The People and What They Are Doing Fully Reported.

Work is some to begin on a new Methodist church at Tulsa.

Farmers are somewhat discouraged, owing to the continued dry weather.

Rev. Bowden's new residence will be ready for occupancy in a few days.

Quite an audience out to hear an Easter sermon by the Rev. H. H. Worth, Sabbath eve.

Mr. Joseph Bynum captured two deer last Saturday. I wonder if he won't get a deer next time.

Quite a lot of corn has been shipped from this place recently, from the farm of our enterprising citizen, George Perryman.

Our townsman and merchant, Mr. Robert Bynum, has been making some improvements in the shape of a yard fence and garden.

Our energetic and clever merchant, Mr. Larry Hall, seems to be driving a brisk business, keep-

ing his accommodating corps of clerks on the move.

Married, at the residence of the bride's parents, April 9th, Mr. Jackson Burgess to Miss Nora Wimberly, Rev. Bowden officiating. Best wishes to the happy couple.

Rev. James Murry, of Ottawa, Kansas, superintendent of M. E. missions in the Indian Territory, has been with us for several days looking after the interests of the church.

Married, at the church, April 11, at 8 o'clock p. m., Mr. Eugene Rathamer, to Miss Mary Skinner, of Fort Scott. It being the gentleman's birthday we congratulate him on getting such a present. We wish them a happy voyage through life. Quite a number repaired to the depot on the 10th to witness the arrival of the bride-elect, and when Eugene bestowed a kiss of welcome she looked as sweet as a June rose and almost as blushing.

DEATH OF THE DAINTY.

WRITTEN FOR THE CHIEFTAIN BY C. A. C.

From valley to hilltop sounds the echo of

As the fleet-winged angel relieved of its breath,

The tall, slender, upright flower that first did bloom,

To each its loveliness, wistful, and die so soon.

A death scene so sad and mournful, 'mid such pleasure,

Only told the many dear companions of the field.

That soon to the monster's voice they would yield.

Ah, ye innocent, fragrant, helpless, lovely

Surrounded where ye bloom by winds sweet and

Now to die in beauty, unperceived and without warning.

While other flowers hovered 'round you

Ah, 'tis said, but oh, how sweet, to know your fate.

For other showy flowers which bloom so late.

Are not missed like the ardent bloom of thee,

Which in early spring sets a smiling everything

Oh, fair flower, we bid you a tearful, sad good-bye.

Soon at your side all flowers of the field will lie.

The rose and violet will shed their leaves and fall.

As they harken unto the sad messenger's call.

Again, good-bye—oh, Dainty—'tis not a long

For some 'er the same valley and hill you will

The fragrant leaves which burst forth from your

And are carried away 'mid the gale of the storm.

VINITA, April 10th, 1887.

THIS EPIC THE POETRY.

I've returned to home and sunny land,

From electioneering for Rabbit Bunch;

I've rode and walked and laughed and sung,

But everybody says Rabbit's hamstring.

I met one man that I tried to fix,

But he said, "his right were it not for the

Heard they were so full of their tricks

That he could not trust the Rabbits mix.

He said, again, they'd blowed it round

That none but Rabbits could be found;

And when the "Vinita" was chaffin' around,

They, themselves, would have the power.

Then I went over to Salinas creek,

And there I met one awful "alick";

He said he would for the Rabbit speak,

And for his party he'd ever stand.

And further on, near Chalkiers' station,

Where "Rabbit's" "Vinita" is lamented;

For, says he, we'll lose our places,

If over our leaders lose the race.

I then went on to Withers' Falls,

Where "Rabbit's" "Fair Play" took Rabbit's

He for the darkies made one call.

But, oh, how "Justice" made him squall,

"Fair Play" he said he wanted to prattle,

But he'd admit he'd lost the battle;

His tricks he said he'd done all knew,

And from his Bunch they all withdrew.

We then went on to Coconawcaw,

Where Taylor once belittled Joe-e-hoo-e,

He said for the Rabbit he'd fought mighty strong,

But through the Chieftain he found his wrong.

And on, Mr. Chieftain, I feel mighty sad,

To see our chances are looking so bad,

But if we fail to elect our own,

We'll nominate Bushy and make another stand.

—HOMER DE CONRAT.

STREET LIST.

At the solicitation of a great many of our

subscribers we have decided to print the

"Street List" of the three upper districts,

Coconawcaw, Delaware and Saline.

COOWEESCOOWEE DISTRICT.

I will sell to the highest bidder on the 2nd

Monday of May, 1887, for cash, natural gas

rights or certificates, the following described

stray property, to-wit:

1 bay mare, 3 years old, three white feet,

star in the forehead, no brand, at John

Vinita's.

1 brown mare, 6 years old, branded R W

on hip and shoulder, knot on left ankle, one

white hind foot, 12 hands high, at Russell

swallowwork in the other, at John Car-

ter's.

1 red 2-year-old heifer, marked split left hip

with a diamond, marked split left under-

lip on right ear, drop and split in the other, at C. C.

Jape's ranch.

1 red 5-year-old steer, marked drop off each

ear, branded H & D V on one side, M H on

the other, at Thomas Gagnier's.

1 red hind back 2-year-old steer, branded V

on right side, marked crop and half crop in

right ear, half crop in left, at S. W. Keys.

1 red and white 2-year-old steer, branded V

on right hip, and diamond on the left side, on

Chouteau creek.

1 red and white spotted 4-year-old steer, branded

under lip, marked smooth crop off ear, under

and over lip in the other, at the mouth of

Pryor creek.

1 red and white yearling heifer, no mark or

brand, at the Journeycakes.

1 2-year-old heifer, no mark or brand, at

Robert Dobkins.

1 black and white spotted sow, and 2 sheats,

mark unknown, at John A. McCoy's.

1 black and white spotted heifer, marked

crop and split in right ear, crop and mark

under lip in left, at V. Grays.

1 blue spotted sow, left ear grubbed off, un-